

Message Text

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14

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12

SAM-01 OMB-01 /099 W

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O R 301100Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8473

INFO AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

USUN NEW YORK 356

C O N F I D E N T I A L GABORONE 1427

REF: A) STATE 181500; B) STATE 178439; C) STATE 181798

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PORG, UN, BC, US

SUBJECT: MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS: GOB POSITION ON KOREA AND PUERTO RICO

1. CHARGE MET WITH EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER MOGWE AFTERNOON
JULY 29 TO DISCUSS KOREA AND PUERTO RICO.

2. KOREA: CHARGE UTILIZED KOREA SECTION OF SECRETARY'S JULY 22
SPEECH AND POINTS IN PARA 4(B) OF REF B. MOGWE CONFIRMED THAT THERE
HAS BEEN NO CHANGE IN GOB POSITION ON THIS ISSUE AND REITERATED THAT
GOB FAVORS WITHDRAWAL OF ALL FOREIGN TROOPS FROM THE PENINSULA.

3. PUERTO RICO: CHARGE'S PRESENTATION INCLUDED PRESIDENT FORD'S
ARRIVAL STATEMENT AND POINTS PARA 4(A) OF REF B. MOGWE PROFESSED
LACK OF DETAILED KNOWLEDGE BUT EXPRESSED INTEREST. HE SAID THAT
BOTSWANA LOOKS TO SUCH ISSUES IN TERMS OF SELF-DETERMINATION. MOGWE
CONTINUED THAT IF THE PEOPLE OF PUERTO RICO HAVE INDEED FREELY
DETERMINED THEIR CURRENT RELATIONSHIP WITH U.S. AS DESCRIBED
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IN CHARGE'S PRESENTATION, THE GOB SHOULD HAVE NO TROUBLE

SUPPORTING OUR POSITION IN PRINCIPLE. HOWEVER, HE WOULD NOT COMMIT GOB TO ACTIVE OPPOSITION TO UNFRIENDLY PROPOSALS EITHER.

4. MOGWE REQUESTED ADDITIONAL MATERIAL TO USE IN "BUILDING A CASE" WITHIN GOB FOR SUPPORT ON PUERTO RICO. SPECIFICALLY HE REQUESTED BEFORE HIS AUGUST 3 DEPARTURE:

A. HISTORICAL INFORMATION ON HOW US-PUERTO RICAN RELATIONSHIP EVOLVED.

B. COPY OF UN RESOLUTION 748 (VIII) AND OTHER UN ACTION, AND

C. DATA ON VOTING PERCENTAGES AND OTHER INFORMATION ON PUERTO RICO'S FREE ASSOCIATION WITH U.S.

5. IN VIEW OF PROHIBITION PARA 3 REF C AGAINST PRESENTING AIDE-MEMOIRE, CHARGE PROMISED ONLY TO TRY TO PULL TOGETHER REQUESTED MATERIALS. ALTHOUGH IT IS UNLIKELY THAT BOTSWANA WILL ACTIVELY OPPOSE VOCAL, RADICAL STATES OVER CONSIDERATION OF PUERTO RICAN ISSUE, BELIEVE IT IS WORTHWHILE TO GIVE REQUESTED ITEMS TO MOGWE TO ASSIST HIM IN "BUILDING HIS CASE". CHARGE GOT THE FEELING THAT MOGWE WAS LOOKING FOR AN OPPORTUNITY TO BE RESPONSIVE.

6. EMBASSY HAS INFORMATION MOGWE DESIRES. REQUEST IMMEDIATE GUIDANCE.

POPE

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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04 MAY 2006

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